

# Blood Donation



Essential Question: Giving blood is a gift of life. What basic facts should a donor know about blood donation?

DIRECTIONS: Answer the following questions by using the following link:  
[www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org).

1. What is done with donated blood?

Whole blood is separated into components. Each component can be used separately to save a life.

2. List the four main components of blood.

Red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets, and plasma

3. Why are blood donors needed every day?

Blood is perishable; it has a limited shelf life from five days to one year.

4. When referring to blood types, what does positive and negative mean?

Positive and negative refers to antigens present in the blood. This distinction helps type blood after donation.

5. List the types of blood and their approved recipient types.

O - the universal donor for all

A - given to A and AB blood types

B - given to B and AB blood types

AB - only donated to other AB blood types

6. Which antigens correspond with which types of blood?

A - has only the A antigen

B - has only the B antigen

AB - has both antigens

O - has neither A or B antigens

7. You have decided to participate in a school blood drive. List four things you can do to make it a good donation experience.

Answers will vary.